

THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

- 5 1. A bulk bag with integral pallets, comprising:
a flexible bag body having a bottom and sidewalls;
at least two elongate pallet members having axially extending openings adapted to receive fork tines from a fork lift, each of the at least two elongate pallet members having
10 at least one underlying wear pad; and
means for securing each of the at least two elongate pallet members to the bottom of the bag body with the least one underlying wear pad exposed.
- 15 2. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 1, wherein each of the at least two elongate pallet member has a first end and a second end, a single underlying wear pad extending between the first end and the second end.
- 20 3. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 2, wherein one of the single wear pad or the elongate pallet member having transverse openings therethrough adapted to accommodate straps.
- 25 4. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 1, wherein each of the at least two elongate pallet members has a first end, a second end, and at least two underlying wear pads including a first wear pad adjacent to the first end and a second wear pad adjacent to the second end.
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5. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 4, wherein a third wear pad is positioned intermediate the first wear pad and the second wear pad.
- 35 6. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 1,

wherein the at least one wear pad is removable from each of the at least two elongate pallet members for replacement.

7. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 1,
5 wherein each of the at least two elongate pallet members has a textured top gripping surface adapted to frictionally engage the bottom of the bulk bag.

8. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 1,
10 wherein the gripping surface is textured by a plurality of ribs.

9. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 8,
wherein the ribs are generally parallel and extend
15 transversely across each of the elongate pallet members.

10. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 1,
wherein each of the at least two pallet members are made
from polymer plastic.

11. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim
10, wherein the at least one wear pad is integrally moulded
as part of each of the at least two polymer plastic pallet
members.

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12. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim
10, wherein each of the at least two polymer plastic pallet
members is fabricated in a generally tubular configuration
with voids, thereby reducing their weight.

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13. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim
12, wherein the voids include perforations.

14. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim

12, wherein the voids include cut outs.

15. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 1, wherein the means for securing each of the at least two 5 elongate pallet members to the bottom of the bag body includes one of straps, laces, or elasticized sleeves.

16. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 1, 10 wherein the means for securing each of the at least two elongate pallet members to the bottom of the bag body is adhesive.

17. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 1, 15 wherein the axially extending openings are fluted, thereby providing a guide for the entry of fork tines from the fork lift.

18. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 1, 20 wherein each of the at least two elongate pallet members has at least one wing extending laterally from one side.

19. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 1, wherein at least one of the at least two elongate pallet 25 members has an electronic identification carrier adapted to be identify said elongate pallet member and distinguish it from other pallet members upon electronic interrogation.

20. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 19, 30 wherein the electronic identification carrier is a microchip capable of encoding data regarding at least one of the contents, weight, or shipping destination of the bulk bag.

21. A bulk bag with integral pallets, comprising:
 - a flexible bag body having a bottom and sidewalls;
 - at least two elongate pallet members having axially
- 5 extending openings adapted to receive fork tines from a fork lift;
- means for securing each of the at least two elongate pallet members to the bottom of the bag body;
- each of the at least two elongate pallet members has a
- 10 textured top gripping surface adapted to frictionally engage the bottom of the bulk bag, the gripping surface being textured by a plurality of ribs which are generally parallel and extend transversely across each of the elongate pallet members.

22. A bulk bag with integral pallets, comprising:
a flexible bag body having a bottom and sidewalls;
at least two elongate pallet members having axially
extending openings adapted to receive fork tines from a fork
lift;
means for securing each of the at least two elongate
pallet members to the bottom of the bag body;
each of the at least two elongate pallet members having
a plurality of non-functional voids adapted to reduce their
weight.

23. A bulk bag with integral pallets, comprising:
a flexible bag body having a bottom and sidewalls;
at least two elongate pallet members having axially
extending openings adapted to receive fork tines from a fork
lift;
means for securing each of the at least two elongate
pallet members to the bottom of the bag body;
the axially extending openings being fluted, thereby
providing a guide for the entry of fork tines.

24. A bulk bag with integral pallets, comprising:
 - a flexible bag body having a bottom and sidewalls;
 - at least two elongate pallet members having axially

5 extending openings adapted to receive fork tines from a fork lift;

means for securing each of the at least two elongate pallet members to the bottom of the bag body;

each of the at least two elongate pallet members has a

10 wing extending laterally from at least one side, such that the wing supports the bottom of the bulk bag to limit bottom sagging.

25. A bulk bag with integral pallets, comprising:

a flexible bag body having a bottom and sidewalls;

at least two elongate pallet members having axially extending openings adapted to receive fork tines from a fork lift;

means for securing each of the at least two elongate pallet members to the bottom of the bag body;

an electronic identification carrier being mounted on one of the at least two elongate pallet members, the electronic identification carrier being adapted to identify said elongate pallet member and distinguish it from other pallet members upon electronic interrogation, and upon electronic interrogation is capable of providing data regarding at least one of the contents, weight, or shipping destination of the bulk bag.

26. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 25, wherein the electronic identification carrier has global positioning system capabilities adapted to facilitate

location with a global positioning system.

27. A bulk bag with integral pallets, comprising:
a flexible bag body having a bottom and sidewalls;
two polymer plastic elongate pallet members having
5 axially extending openings adapted to receive fork tines from
a fork lift, each of the two elongate pallet members having a
first end, a second end, and at least two underlying wear
pads including a first wear pad adjacent the first end and a
second wear pad adjacent the second end, the at least two
10 elongate pallet members being fabricated in a generally
tubular configuration with weight reducing voids; and
the two elongate pallet members being secured to the
bottom of the bag body by one of straps, laces, or
elasticized sleeves with the least two underlying wear pads
15 exposed, the straps, laces or elasticized sleeves being
positioned between and being protected from wear by the at
least two underlying wear pads which provide an underlying
wear surface.

20 28. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 27, wherein a third wear pad is positioned intermediate the first wear pad and the second wear pad.

25 29. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 27, wherein each of the at least two wear pads is removable
from each of the two elongate pallet members for replacement.

30 30. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 27, wherein the at least two wear pads are integrally moulded
as part of each of the at least two polymer plastic pallet
members.

35 31. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 27, wherein the weight reducing voids include perforations.

32. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 27, wherein the axially extending openings are fluted, thereby providing a guide for the entry of fork tines from 5 the fork lift.

33. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 27, wherein each of the elongate pallet members has a textured top gripping surface with ribs that are generally 10 parallel and extend transversely across the elongate pallet members, the ribs being adapted to frictionally engage the bottom of the bulk bag.

34. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 15 27, wherein each of the elongate pallet members has at least one wing extending laterally from one side.

35. The bulk bag with integral pallets as defined in Claim 27, wherein at least one of the two elongate pallet members 20 has an electronic identification carrier adapted to be identify said elongate pallet member and distinguish it from other pallet members upon electronic interrogation, the electronic identification carrier including a microchip capable of encoding data regarding at least one of the 25 contents, weight, or shipping destination of the bulk bag.